2. लेखापानी भूमिगत
3. हाइड्रोलिक माइनिंग, बारगोलाई
4. नामचिक भूमिगत

(8) सिंकोंकंलि० (आंध्र प्रदेश राज्य)

1. जे०के०–III ओपेनकास्ट ब्लाक–सी
2. जी०डी०के०–8 बी०जी०
3. जी०डी०के०–10 बी०जी०
4. जी०डी०के०–7 जीवन विस्तार
5. कासीपेट ब्लाक
6. मेडापल्ली ओ०का०
7. यू०के० 7 मिनी लांगवाल

Setting up of a Thermal Unit by Neyveli Lignite Corporation

7333. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Secretary, Ministry of Coal had laid the foundation stone during the month of January, 1991 for setting up a thermal unit by Neyveli Lignite Corporation, called by Zero Unit.

(b) how much and what sort of aid was assured by the World Bank and the Government of Germany;

(c) what was the total cost then estimated for the Zero Thermal Plant;

(d) whether it is also a fact that same project was handed over to the private sector;

(e) if so, what are the complete details of the agreement and the MOU had with the private sector including the particulars regarding difference of amount in the capital estimated for the Zero Unit previously by the Neyveli Lignite Corporation and recently by the private sector; and

(f) what are the reasons attributed for the difference of amount in the capital estimated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Neither World Bank nor KFW (Germany) had assured any aid for Neyveli Lignite Corporation (NLC)'s Zero Unit Project.

(c) NLC's Zero Unit Project (1×210 MW) was sanctioned by the Government at a capital cost of Rs. 397.26 crores (at July 1988 base) in March, 1989.

(d) to (f) The Zero Unit project (1×210 MW) was initially sanctioned by the Govt. to be implemented by NLC. Owing to paucity of adequate resources and in furtherance of Govt. of India's policy permitting private sector participation in Power Sector, this has been transferred to M/s. S. T. Power System Inc.

An MOU was signed between NLC and M/s. STPS Inc. on 31-8-92, transferring the project to the latter. The terms and conditions governing the transfer of the project are contained in the Ministry of Industry, Deptt. of Industrial Development's letter No. FC. II.283(92)/371(92) dated 14-8-92 and include, *inter-alia* the following :—

(i) Foreign equity participation shall be 55% and the Indian equity shall be 45%.

(ii) 50% of the debt amount shall be raised in India and the balance through suppliers' credit, commercial loan, etc. from abroad.

(iii) The project proponent shall negotiate an agreement with the Govt. of Tamil Nadu for the sale of power and the tariff shall be calculated according to the guidelines of Deptt. of Power, Govt. of India.

(iv) NLC shall supply on payment raw lignite to the project in accordance with its actual requirements.

(v) The agreement shall be subject to Indian laws.

M/s. STPS has since formed an Indian Company known as M/s. ST-CMS Electric Company to implement this project.

NLC's Zero Unit project and the project now to be implemented by M/s. ST-CMS Electric Company are not exactly identical. While NLC's Zero Unit project capacity was 1x210 MW, the project of M/s. ST-CMS Electric Company has a proposed capacity of 1x250 MW. The two projects also differ in the pattern of ownership, in location, availability of infrastructure, in customer profile, etc.

The Zero Unit project of NLC was sanctioned at a capital cost of Rs. 397.26 crores at 7/88 base. The cost projected by the private company for their project is about Rs. 1125 crores. The difference in cost is attributed, inter-alia, to the following major reasons :—

(i) Escalation in cost over a period of time.

(ii) Change in debt—equity ratio and pattern of financing.

(iii) Increase in the capacity of the unit from 210 MW to 250 MW.

(iv) Additional land cost and other infrastructural facilities to be provided by the new company.

Effect on the economy of coal producing States due to reduction in import duty on coal

7334. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state the consequent effect on the Coal India Limited and Coal producing States' economy as a result of reduction in import of duty on coal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : The reduction in import duty on non-coking coals would reduce the cost of imported coal to Indian Coal Consumers. A quick appraisal made by Coal India Limited indicates that with reduced import duty, the landed cost of imported coal at some Thermal Power Plants near the ports may be lower than the landed cost of indigenous coal. The implications of this reduction in customs duty on Indian Coal Companies and Coal producing States would depend on the quantities of coal actually imported and therefore cannot be accurately assessed for the present.

Employment in different subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd.

7335. SHRI MD. SALIM : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of workforce, category-wise in different subsidiaries of Coal India Ltd.; and

(b) what are the details of the number of officers, employees and workers in different subsidiary companies of Coal India Ltd. for the last three years ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA) : (a) and (b) The categorywise details